

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 L-03 SAJ-01

NIC-01 H-03 DRC-01 /074 W
----- 102900

R 051536Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1385

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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3. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS CZ (SEEGER, MURRAY)

SUBJ: AMERICAN JOURNALIST REFUSED CZECH VISA

1. AFTER THREE-MONTH EFFORT TO OBTAIN CZECH VISA TO VISIT PRAGUE, MURRAY SEEGER OF LOS ANGELES TIMES HAS BEEN INFORMED BY CZECH EMBASSY MOSCOW THAT HIS APPLICATION WAS REFUSED. AFTER LONG CZECH EMBASSY DELAY IN ACTING ON APPLICATION, AMEMBASSY HAD INQUIRED ON HIS BEHALF.

2. SEEGER APPLIED WITH FAMILY IN MAY TO VISIT PRAGUE AS TOURISTS, AND PURSUED HIS APPLICATION HERE AND AT CZECH EMBASSY VIENNA. HE REPORTED CZECH CONSOFF IN VIENNA DEFERRED APPLICATION UPON SEEING SEEGER'S OCCUPATION WAS JOURNALIST, BEFORE CZECH CONSOFF HAD OPPORTUNITY TO CHECK ANY LOOKOUT SYSTEM. THUS, SEEGER IS NOT SURE WHETHER REFUSAL IS DIRECTED AGAINST HIM PERSONALLY, MOSCOW-BASED AMERICAN JOURNALISTS, OR JOURNALISTS IN GENERAL.

3. IN MAY SEEGER ALSO APPLIED FOR AND OBTAINED POLISH VISA. HE SUBSEQUENTLY WROTE TWO STORIES ABOUT POLAND, AND FILED THEM FROM HERE.

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4. SEEGER HAS COMPLETED MOSCOW TOUR AND IS LEAVING IN NEAR

FUTURE - HIS REPLACEMENT ROBERT C. TOTH HAS ARRIVED. SEEGER
DOES NOT PLAN TO PURSUE CZECH VISA APPLICATION FURTHER.

5. ABOVE IS FOR INFORMATION OF AMEMBASSY PRAGUE AND DEPT,
AND FOR ANY ACTION THEY MAY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE.

EXEMPT.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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